

Understanding the Texas English Language Learner (ELL) Progress Measure

What is the Texas ELL Progress Measure?

The Texas English Language Learner (ELL) Progress Measure provides year-to-year performance expectations on the State of Texas Assessments of Academic Readiness (STAAR) content-area assessments for Texas ELL students. The year-to-year STAAR expectations take into account the level of English language proficiency ELL students possess, thus providing a more meaningful gauge of annual improvement or progress for these students than the general STAAR Progress Measure.

What is the purpose of the Texas ELL Progress Measure?

The Texas ELL Progress Measure has been created specifically for Texas ELL students. It takes into account the time needed to acquire the English language and to fully demonstrate grade-level academic skills in English.

How do I know if my student will receive the Texas ELL Progress Measure?

To be eligible for the ELL Progress Measure, a student must:

- be classified as limited English proficient (LEP),
- take the English language versions of STAAR, and
- not have a parent denial requested for ELL services.

How does the Texas ELL Progress Measure work?

Eligible ELLs are placed into a plan that specifies the expected number of years it should take for the student to reach proficiency, or meet his or her Level II: Satisfactory Academic Performance standards on STAAR content-area assessments.

Students' plans are determined by the number of years they have been enrolled in U.S. schools and the Texas English Language Proficiency Assessment System (TELPAS) composite proficiency level they obtain the first time they take TELPAS, beginning in 2014 and with second grade. While TELPAS is administered in earlier grades, for plan determination purposes, only composite scores from second grade and higher are used. Students with interrupted formal education (SIFE) or those who are classified as unschooled asylees and refugees are given one additional year (up to a maximum of five years) to reach proficiency. Additionally, students being assessed with English I and English II EOC assessments are given an additional year in their plan to account for the high level of English proficiency required to be successful on those assessments. Please note that students qualifying as asylees, refugees, or SIFE taking English I and II only receive one additional year total. The table that follows shows how a student's plan for the Texas ELL Progress Measure is determined.

Number of Years in U.S. Schools	TELPAS Proficiency Level	ELL Progress Measure Plan*
1	TELPAS Beginning	4-Year Plan
1	TELPAS Intermediate	3-Year Plan
1	TELPAS Advanced	2-Year Plan
1	TELPAS Advanced High	1-Year Plan
2	TELPAS Intermediate or Below	4-Year Plan
2	TELPAS Advanced	3-Year Plan
2	TELPAS Advanced High	2-Year Plan
3	TELPAS Advanced or Below	4-Year Plan
3	TELPAS Advanced High	3-Year Plan
4	Any TELPAS Proficiency Level	4-Year Plan

* Add one additional year (up to a maximum of 5 years) for students classified as SIFE or who are classified as asylees and refugees and for all ELL students assessed with STAAR English I and English II.

Year-to-year target cut score expectations have been established by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) on each STAAR content-area assessment. Students receive credit for making progress on the STAAR assessment if they meet or exceed their year-to-year expectation, which is based on the plan in which they are placed and the number of years they have been on the plan. In the final year of the plan, students are expected to meet the Level II: Satisfactory Academic Performance standards. After the final year of the plan, students still classified as LEP will no longer be eligible for the ELL Progress Measure and instead will begin to have the STAAR progress measure reported on their CSR.

When will the Texas ELL Progress Measure be implemented and where will I receive information about it?

The Texas ELL Progress Measure will be reported on eligible students' CSRs and used for district and school accountability beginning with the spring 2014 administration. ELL Progress Measure information will also appear in the student and teacher portals, available on www.TexasAssessment.com.

For which grades and assessments will the Texas ELL Progress Measure be reported?

The ELL Progress Measure will be reported for all STAAR and STAAR L grades and subjects administered in English. Note that the ELL Progress Measure will **NOT** be reported for STAAR Modified and STAAR Alternate assessments or any of the STAAR Spanish assessments. Students participating in STAAR Spanish will receive credit for the year-to-year progress that they make through the general STAAR Progress Measure.

For more information about the Texas ELL Progress Measure, contact

Texas Education Agency
Student Assessment Division
1701 N. Congress Avenue
Austin, Texas, 78701
(512) 463-9536